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<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/650,617	PATTERSON, CIARAN J.	
	Examiner Pedro J. Cuevas	Art Unit 2834	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to amendment filed on September 26, 2005.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 14, 17-19 and 23-82.
3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All b)  Some\* c)  None of the:
    1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

#### Attachment(s)

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### *Response to Arguments*

1. Applicant's arguments, see pages 15-18, filed on September 26, 2005, with respect to claims 14, 17-19, and 49-52 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections of claims 14, 17-19, and 49-52 have been withdrawn.

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

2. Claims 14, 17-19, and 23-82 are allowed.

### *Reasons for Allowance*

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

The prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, does not teach the construction of:

a method for controlling the sources of electric power in a system wherein at least two sources of electric power connected in parallel as described on:

independent claim 14, comprising the step of: determining a regulating signal with the follower regulator for producing the percentage of the maximum output for the source of electric power associated with the follower regulator based on the instruction from the master regulator and the operational characteristic,

independent claim 23, comprising the step of determining which regulator is a master regulator after power-up of the system,

independent claim 56, comprising: sending a first communication from the first regulator to the second regulator and sending a second communication from the second regulator to the first regulator, and

independent claim 77, comprising: reconfiguring the first regulator and the second regulator so that the first regulator operates as a follower regulator and the second regulator operates as a master regulator;

a power system for producing electrical power as described on independent claims 17, 49, and 71, comprising: at least one follower regulator for receiving the control signal, for sensing at least one operational characteristic of its associated source of electric power, and for determining whether to accept or reject the control signal based on the operational characteristic; and

a voltage regulator having functionality as a master regulator and as a follower regulator as described on:

independent claims 36 and 73, comprising: programming code stored in memory for determining whether the voltage regulator operates as a master regulator or as a follower regulator, and

independent claim 45, comprising: means for determining whether the regulator is the master regulator or follower regulator, wherein a regulator may function as a master regulator or a follower regulator,

independent claim 68, comprising: means for rejecting the control signal based on the means for independently verifying, and for using a different signal to control the source of electric power.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pedro J. Cuevas whose telephone number is (571) 272-2021. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:30 - 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren Schuberg can be reached on (571) 272-2044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Pedro J. Cuevas  
November 15, 2005



DARREN SCHUBERG  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
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